

Mubarak falls as a million
Egyptians march pg 3



Enjoy Aruba's
57th carnival

Indication of improvements
in Aruba's economy pg 3

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THE MORNING NEWS

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S. African wins World Press Photo award



AFP photo showing the portrait of Aisha, who was disfigured for abandoning her marital home, won the 2010 World Press Photo award for South African photographer Jodi Bieber.

see story on page 2

Live presentation of 'Den Dje' by famous DJ Ivo Yanez Monday, February 14, Groovin' Suzuki Jam at Ultimate Automobiles

This Monday, February the 14th, the place to celebrate Valentine's Day will be at Ultimate Automobiles N.V. at Sabana Blanco. Ultimate and Suzuki invites the Aruban community to come and join them and have a Groovin' time to the sweet Carnival tunes of Le Groove from 8 p.m. on.

Tele Aruba television will also be presenting live with their program 'Den Dje' by famous island DJ Ivo Yanez.

Members of Pleasers N'Teasers Carnival group will be at hand with their Super Offer for 2 parades, everything included for only Afl. 550,-. This offer will only be valid for this day, so the public is advised to take advantage of this.

Ultimate will also like to remind everyone of the Aruba Bank Car Loan Jam which offers a special interest rate of 6.5%. This offer reflects also in the special prices offered on all Suzuki models at the moment.

"This is the best time to come and pick your Suzuki model and pay less per month. You can request your pre-approval documents during the whole week," says a spokesperson.

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INVITACION

14 DI FEBRUARY 2011
8PM-10:30 PM

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cu Ivo Yanez
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GUATEMALA CITY, Guatemala -- Elderly women participate in the Old Love Parade -- held as part of the celebrations of Saint Valentine's Day, on February 11, 2011 at Constitution Square, in Guatemala City's historic center. (AFP PHOTO)

Carnaval Schedule	
SAT FEB 12. 7 P.M.	ARUBA'S 36TH CHILDREN QUEEN AND 48TH YOUTH QUEEN ELECTION PLACE:: ARUBA ENTERTAINMENT CENTER
SUN. FEB. 13	YOUTH PARADE - O'STAD FLIP FLOP CARNAVAL BEACH FESTIVAL PLACE: THE VILLAGE
FRI. FEBR 18	CARNAVALHAPPY HOUR - PLACE: PENDING
SAT. FEBR 19 7:30 P.M.	ARUBA'S 57TH CARNAVAL QUEEN ELECTION AND CORONATION PLACE: ARUBA ENTERTAINMENT CENTER



Public **Private**
Partnership
Aruba 2011

THE GREEN CORRIDOR

Invitation "PPP Aruba 2011" conference

Friday, February 18, 2011, Renaissance Convention Center, Oranjestad Aruba

The Prime Minister and Minister of Infrastructure of Aruba have the pleasure of inviting you to our conference on Public Private Partnership (PPP) in Oranjestad Aruba.

The Government of Aruba aims to start the tender process for the PPP project for infrastructure "4 lane road between Oranjestad – San Nicolas + existing routes South / East (The Green Corridor)" this year.

This conference intends to provide relevant information on PPP in Aruba. Furthermore access (preview) will be given in the planned PPP projects by the government for the coming years. The overall goal of these projects is to stimulate the economy of Aruba through the application of the PPP concept and its inherent advantages.

We invite interested parties to attend the conference. The invitations is for both Aruban and international interested parties, general contractors, financial advisors, financial institutions, consultants, law firms, engineering firms and architectural firms.

The "PPP Aruba 2011" conference is threefold:

1. To create interest for both local and international parties in PPP Aruba;
2. Present the plans of the Aruban government to market more projects in the form of PPP in the near future;
3. Promote networks and consortium building among local and international parties.

For further information please contact Marinus Wegereef, telephone (+297) 594-0983.

S. African wins World Press Photo award

THE HAGUE, The Netherlands (AFP) – A portrait of an Afghan woman disfigured as punishment for abandoning her marital home won the 2010 World Press Photo award for South African Jodi Bieber, organisers said yesterday. Two AFP photographers, Olivier Laban-Mattei and Christophe Archambault were also honoured for their work.

First appearing on the front page of Time Magazine on August 1, 2010, Bieber's photograph shows Afghani Bibi Aisha staring into the lense, her nose and ears hacked off by members of the Taliban who accused her of abandoning her husband.

"This could become one of those pictures -- and we have maybe just 10 in our lifetime -- where if somebody says: 'you know, that picture of a girl', you know exactly which one they're talking about," jury chairman David Burnett was quoted as saying in a statement issued by the awards committee.

Aisha had fled back to her family home complaining of

violent treatment at the hands of her husband.

The shot of the 18-year-old, her black shoulder-length hair partly covered by a purple headscarf, also won in the category "Portraits."

After she was disfigured, Aisha was rescued by aid workers and American soldiers and later underwent reconstructive surgery in the United States, where she now lives.

Frenchman Laban-Mattei won the category "General Information" with a photo series on the January 2010 earthquake in Haiti. One of his pictures shows a man throwing the corpse of a dead child onto a pile of dead bodies at a hospital morgue.

His compatriot Christophe Archambault came third in the category "Nature" for a series on the erupting volcano Bromo, in Java.

Organisers said a record number of 108,059 images was submitted for this year's contest. A total of 5,847 photographers took part, representing 125 different nationalities.

Mubarak falls as million Egyptians march

CAIRO, Egypt (AFP) – Egyptian strongman Hosni Mubarak was forced to cede power to a junta of senior military commanders yesterday after more than a million furious demonstrators took to the streets.

News of the regime's collapse whipped rapidly across Cairo, sparking an eruption of joy and joyous chants of, "We the people have overthrown the regime!"

A grim-faced and ashen Vice President Omar Suleiman announced the handover on state television after an extraordinary national outpouring of rage brought vast crowds into the streets in cities across the country.

"President Mohammed Hosni Mubarak has decided to leave the post of president of the republic and has tasked the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces to manage the state's affairs," Suleiman said.

The new man in the strongman's shoes is Field Marshall Mohammed Hussein Tantawi, chairman of the military council and a 75-year-old veteran who has always been considered a close ally of Mubarak.

The statement appeared to

bring an end to constitutional rule in Egypt and invest power in a group of generals representing a military that has long been the power behind the throne in the Arab world's most populous country.

Earlier, the 82-year-old strongman had flown out of Cairo to his holiday retreat at Sharm el-Sheikh on the Red Sea, his ruling party said.

As news spread, cries of "Allahu Akbar" -- God is greatest! -- and howls of victory rang out in the streets of the capital, firecrackers exploded, dancing broke out and women ululated their joy.

Egypt's powerful Islamist opposition group the Muslim Brotherhood hailed Mubarak's resignation and thanked the army.

"We salute the great people of Egypt in their battle," Essam el-Erian, a senior Brotherhood leader and spokesman told AFP. "We salute the army, which kept its promises."

In Tahrir Square several protesters fainted with the emotion of the moment following two weeks of protest.

Elsewhere in Cairo, gunshots, fireworks and the rhyth-

mic car horns usually reserved for weddings were heard as Egyptians celebrated Mubarak's resignation.

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Increased activity in various sectors indicate improvements in Aruba's economy



ORANJESTAD -- The import statistics for the month of January give a positive indication of a marked improvement in the island economy and the expectations for the coming year are optimistic. There is an increase in the registration of 20 ft and 40 ft containers, compared to the same month last year.

In 2010, 914 containers of different sizes were processed in January, equivalent to 1514 TEU (Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit,) the standard for describing a ship's cargo carrying capacity, and a shipping terminal's cargo

handling capacity. A standard forty-foot (40x8x8 ft) container equals two TEUs (each 20x8x8 feet).

As of January 31, 2011, 1236 containers were processed, which demonstrates an increase to 2074 TEU. Judging by the recovery of the tourism industry as indicated by reservations for the rest of the year, coupled with the reopening of Valero Refinery Aruba and the commerce this generates, it looks as if 2011 will be a very busy year for Aruba's ports and quite positive for the island's economy.

EU funding for Dutch microfinance



Maxime Verhagen

THE HAGUE, The Netherlands -- The Netherlands has become the first EU member state to receive EU funding for providing microfinance. The European Investment Fund is making €2 million available, says Dutch Economic Affairs Minister Maxime Verhagen. He announced the news yesterday, accompanied by Princess

Máxima, who is a prominent advocate of microfinance.

Small-scale start-up initiatives can apply for a microloan from Qredits, a Dutch microfinance organisation. Since its foundation in 2009, Qredits has granted over 1100 loans, with a total value of almost €23 million. The EU funding comes in addition to financing that Qredits already received from a number of major banks and the Dutch government.

Borrowing money from Qredits is slightly different to borrowing money from a bank. There is a maximum of €35,000 and the organisation also provides special coaches who can help fledgling businesses find their feet. Qredits also places a greater emphasis on lending to the unemployed or people who have been in debt in the past.

Editorial

It is no secret; Aruba is right in step with practically all the most recent world innovations. We have all the newest electronic gadgets on the market; we get them here within weeks, sometimes even days after they hit the international markets. By any standard, this is good for our economy and for diversification.

We are also faced with some of the negative consequences that some of these new inventions bring. For example, who would have thought that the birth of Electronic Games, like the Nintendo genre, would be the culprit of children's addiction to electronic games, which could hurt their performance at school! Or that the new cell phones, equipped with everything but a TV screen, would be the cause of early deafness among young people because of their use of loud screaming cell phone earplugs in each ear for hours on end.

We are definitely not bashing any of the new gadgets, for each has its place of importance and do contribute to a more efficient daily management of our lives and businesses. However, it may be wise for us to stop a moment and take stock of how we are using some of them. We should do a quick scan of whether or not we are using them to enhance our lives, indeed, or if we are succumbing to the adverse affect they have on us in subtle ways.

Take for example, the new digital billboards that are springing up everywhere. This has become the newest and most innovative way to do public marketing. In the days when we hand painted billboards to advertise a product or service, Aruba had just a sprinkling of them at strategic points on the island. They were just enough not to create a menace to traffic, nor to be eye sores to motorists and others using our streets and highways. They were all done in good taste with great care and professionalism. We even used some of them as landmarks or direction posts for finding certain locations on the island. People would commonly say, for example "...take a left at the big WIMCO sign and you'll find it at the corner."

But, today, it's as if, we have little or no regard any-

more for the safety of our motorists or for preserving the beauty of the Aruban serene landscapes. Our serene landscape is not limited to the waterfront areas or to the so called 'tourist locations.' Our landscape includes every site on the island, even those places where homes and business are located, in the city area and on the outskirts.

Aruba has jumped on the bandwagon of digital advertising. Digital billboards are obviously, a very vivid and clearly visible form of getting a product or service in the public's eye. And, that is literally what has happened, they have gotten into our eyes, so much so that they have ceased to have the effect intended! One or two digital billboards strategically positioned that do not distract motorists would be extremely effective. But when these multiply, as they have almost overnight, and are placed practically at every major intersection, they lose their appeal and effectiveness.

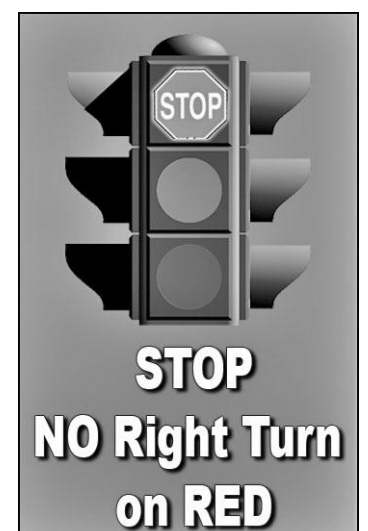
Oversaturation of this sort can be rather obnoxious. Motorists have begun to complain about their nighttime visibility because of these billboards. The extremely sharp colorful flickering lights are blinding to motorists and pedestrians. Some complain of their inability to distinguish whether they are approaching police warning lights or an accident seen with flashing lights or one of those numerous billboards.

In Holland they have what they call a "millieuevervuil" law. This is a law against anything that can be considered detrimental to a clean environment. We can all concur on the fact that too much of anything becomes a clutter and distasteful. Too many digital billboards can be considered distasteful and ob-

noxious. They lose their effectiveness.

Motorists to whom they are targeted lose interest and no longer read what is projected, because as they put it.... "I'm tired of seeing the same things at every corner...too much, too much bright light, I can't watch them anymore!"

Innovation is great and we must keep up with the times, we cannot lag behind. However, we must be prudent and very wise as to how we handle innovation. We dare not get carried away with the new gadgets and forget our obligation to be good neighbors to those who live with us. Being good neighbors mean we cannot blind the eyes of our neighbors with excessively bright lights, and clutter their visibility with obstacles at every major intersection. The Morning News definitely applauds every effort to improve the way we do business on Aruba, and going digital is an interesting improvement. We must preserve a good thing and use it to our advantage. Digital billboards may be the new way to advertise. However, as we think of the size of the island, and on our already congested main roads, the question raised is ...do we need a moratorium on digital billboards now?



Stern Revs Up for Aruba Banks' Car Loan Jam



Stern Automotive Dealer and Aruba Bank are teaming up to make it possible for you to shine in a new automobile, and, as they claim, for an incomparable price. On Friday February 18 the Aruba Bank Car Loan Jam is scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. at the Stern's dealership in Tanki Leendert.

During the festive evening a DJ will be on hand to delight everyone with music, along

with many other surprises during the event.

The Aruba Bank Car Loan Jam is offering a super special interest rate of 6.5%. What makes this offer even more spectacular is that you can purchase your automobile now and begin making your payments after three months. In addition, you also receive a pre-approved credit card with a US\$1000 credit and the chance to win a trip for two to



Rio de Janeiro!

Stern has decided to also make a special offer to all buyers of an automobile; they have discounted several of their models, which will significantly reduce the buyers'

monthly payments. Stern has chosen a few of their most popular models, with respect to their satisfaction, comfort, economy and uniqueness.

One of the models making big waves is the AVEO 2011 an especially comfortable and economical car, which, thanks to Aruba Bank is available to their clients with monthly payments of only Fls.583. For those in search of the ideal and safe car for their family, is the Captiva LS+ 2010 to the incredible price of Fls.982, - monthly; and, is their best buy. But, there are only 15 of these models available.

Finally, the vehicle that has conquered the hearts of so many for its unique look, capacity and comfort, is the stylish Spark for a monthly payment of only Fls.475.

To apply for the Aruba Bank Car Loan one needs to show a valid ID, two of the last pay slips and a reference letter from an employer and the loan may be approved on the spot.

Everyone is invited to visit the Stern's automobile showroom and begin the process of applying for the loan so they can come to the Jam preapproved. Loan requests may be made at any of Aruba Bank's branches.

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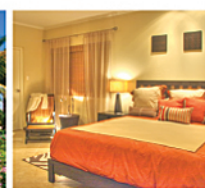
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Marco Bakker and Ernst Daniel Smid concert in Aruba



Ernst Daniel Smid

The popular Dutch baritones of musicals and operettas Marco Bakker and Ernst Daniel Smid will be in Aruba to give a concert which will take place on Sunday, February the 20th at 7:00 p.m. in the Cas di Cultura.

Mr. Bakker and Mr. Smid together with Mr. Henk Poort form the well known "The Three Baritones" in the

Netherlands. The Prins Bernhard Cultural Funds has managed to bring this trio for a series of concerts here in Aruba, Curaçao and Bonaire. Mr. Poort can not be present in Aruba because he has other commitments in the Netherlands, but Mr. Bakker and Mr. Smid will be in Aruba.

The concert is organized by the Aruba Art Circle in cooperation with local sponsors.

On the program there will be medleys from Italy, Vienna and Ireland, spirituals, musicals' melodies and North American ballads.

Marco Bakker is known for his presentations of very popular musicals but also in the movie picture "Theo and Thea." Besides of being a singer in operettas and operas Mr. Smid is also very successful in the Dutch television broadcasting with his program "Una Voce Particolare" where amateur singers get the opportunity to launch a career like in the "American Idol".

The tour of "The Three Baritones" has started in the nineties with a gala night for the UNICEF and their presentation has made such a tremendous impact that they have become the Dutch variant of the three world famous tenors Placido Domingo, José Carreras and Luciano Pavarotti. After the gala presentation they kept filling concert halls all over the Netherlands from the Carré Theater to the Concert Building. Now both the Aruban Public and concert lovers as well as visitors to Aruba have the unique opportunity to attend a concert of Marco Bakker and Ernst Daniel Smid live in

Marco Bakker



the Cas di Cultura. The entrance fee is Afl. 50 (US \$28,50). Tickets will be available at the De Witt & Van Dorp Book-

stores and the Plaza Bookshop. If still available also at the concert hall on Sunday evening before the concert.



3 BARITONES
 ERNST DANIEL SMID - HENK POORT - MARCO BAKKER

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Sci-Tech

'Thinking cap' makes brain waves in Australia



Professor Allan Snyder (L) and PhD student Richard Chi (R) display their "thinking cap" (C) on a glass head at the University of Sydney.

SYDNEY (AFP) - Scientists in Australia say they are encouraged by initial results of a revolutionary "thinking cap" that aims to promote creativity by passing low levels of electricity through the brain.

The device, which consists of two conductors fastened to the head by a rubber strap, significantly boosted results in a simple arithmetic test, they said.

Three times as many people who wore the "thinking

cap" were able to complete the test, compared to those who did not use the equipment. Sixty people took part in total.

Allan Snyder, director of the University of Sydney's Centre for the Mind, said the device worked by suppressing the left side of the brain, associated with knowledge, and stimulating the right side, linked to creativity.

"You wouldn't use this to study or to help your memory," Snyder told AFP. "You

would use this if you wanted to look at a problem anew.

"If you wanted to look at the world, just briefly, with a child's view, if you wanted to look outside the box."

He said goal was to suppress mental templates gathered through life experiences to help users see problems and situations as they really appear, rather than through the prism of earlier knowledge.

Snyder added that the work was inspired by accident victims who experienced a sudden surge in creativity after damaging the left side of their brains.

"We know that from certain types of brain damage and abnormalities or injuries, people who suddenly have damage to the left temporal lobe will burst out in the arts or other types of creative activities," he said.

Snyder said the device had been in use by scientists for a decade, but this was the first study into how current passing through the brain could amplify insight.

Will the RIM PlayBook cause problems for HP TouchPad, iPad?



Pricing for the new HP TouchPad hasn't been announced, but it looks like Research In Motion's 16GB BlackBerry PlayBook will cost \$500. That rumor comes after Twitter user Ben Shipley posted a screenshot that shows what appears to be an internal Office Depot webpage of the PlayBook with a \$500 price tag. The page also says the PlayBook is coming to Office Depot stores in Week 17 (presumably of 2011), suggesting a late April launch. Shipley once worked for Office Depot as a Regional Project Specialist, according to his Facebook page. It's not clear whether he is still employed with the big box retailer.

Sane Pricing


The PlayBook's pricing falls in line with previous reports that RIM's first tablet would hover around \$500, similar in pricing to Apple's iPad. For that price you get 16GB onboard storage, a 7-inch screen with 1,024-by-600 resolution, a 1GHz dual-core processor, 1GB RAM, 802.11n Wi-Fi, a 3 megapixel front-facing camera and a 5 megapixel rear-facing camera. The iPad's 16GB model comes with a larger 9.7-inch screen but lacks the PlayBook's dual cameras and dual-core processor.

Motorola's Xoom, the first tablet to run Android 3.0 (Honeycomb), may be priced

much higher at \$800, according to the latest rumors. The Xoom features a 10.1-inch touchscreen with 1,280-by-800 resolution, 1GB RAM, a 1GHz dual-core processor, 32GB on-board storage, a SD card slot, 3G and 802.11n Wi-Fi connectivity, a 5 megapixel rear-facing camera with 720p video capture, and a 2 megapixel front-facing camera for video chat. The comparable iPad model to the Xoom sells for \$729. Motorola will not offer a Wi-Fi only version of its tablet at launch.

Despite the impressive specs, Motorola is going to have a tough time competing with the iPad and the PlayBook if both brands are offering a lower-priced \$500 model. But Motorola is reportedly bullish on the Xoom's prospects, despite the significant price disadvantage.

If the PlayBook does price itself around \$500, it's not clear yet whether the device's smaller screen size will make it less desirable than its iPad counterpart. But if, as expected, the rumored iPad 2 ends up sporting two cameras and manages to retain its current pricing, the PlayBook may be a tough sell, even at \$500.



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Activists on Facebook need more protection: senator

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Facebook has become an important tool for democracy and human rights activists and it needs to do more to protect them, including allowing the use of pseudonyms, a US senator said Thursday.

"Recent events in Egypt and Tunisia have again highlighted the significant costs and benefits of social networking technology like Facebook to democracy and human rights activists," Senator Dick Durbin said in a letter to Facebook co-founder and chief executive Mark Zuckerberg.

"I commend you for providing an important tool to democracy and human-rights activists," the Democrat from Illinois said.

"However, as millions of people around the world use Facebook to exercise their freedom of expression, I am concerned that the company does not have adequate safeguards in place to protect human rights and avoid being exploited by repressive governments," Durbin said.

"Facebook has facilitated efforts by activists to organize demonstrations and publicize human-rights abuses," he said.

"At the same time, the Egyptian and Tunisian governments have reportedly used Facebook to monitor activists, which is surely aided by Facebook's refusal to allow activists to use pseudo-

nyms," the senator said, citing Belarus, China, and Iran as other countries using social networking to track activists.

Durbin repeated a call for Facebook, which has nearly 600 million users, to join the Global Network Initiative (GNI), which has drafted a voluntary code of conduct to protect human rights and whose members include Google, Microsoft and Yahoo!

Responding to the senator's letter, Andrew Noyes, a Facebook spokesman, said "the trust people place in us is the most important part of what makes Facebook work."

"As demonstrated by our response to threats in Tunisia, we take this trust seriously and work aggressively every single day to protect people," he said.

As for pseudonyms, Noyes said: "Facebook has always been based on a real name culture, and we fundamentally believe this leads to greater accountability and a safer and more trusted environment for people who use the service."

Referring to the appeal to join GNI, Noyes said, "as Facebook grows, we'll absolutely be considering which groups we can actively participate in but it's important to remember that our global operations are still small, with offices in only a handful of countries."

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Health & Living

Health Tip: Losing Your Sense of Taste

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- *Getting older.
- *Having Bell's palsy.
- *Having the gum disease gingivitis.
- *Having a cold or the flu, a nasal or salivary gland infection, sinusitis or nasal polyps.
- *Being a heavy smoker.
- *Having dry mouth.
- *Having an injury to the head, nose or mouth.
- *Having pharyngitis, an inflammation of the pharynx.
- *Having a side effect of certain medications.
- *Having a vitamin deficiency.

BRIEFS:

20 dead of swine flu in China in 2011: ministry
BEIJING (AFP) – At least 20 people have died of swine flu in China this year, the health ministry said, but officials said there was no reason to panic even as the flu season reaches its peak.

The fatalities from A(H1N1) influenza have been recorded in at least nine locations since mid-January, the ministry said. Swine flu has killed more than 18,400 people and affected practically all parts of the world since it was uncovered in Mexico and the United States in April 2009, according to the World Health Organization.

Countries must do more to fight alcohol abuse: WHO

GENEVA (AFP) – The World Health Organisation warned that too few countries were taking steps to prevent alcohol abuse and raised alarm bells over major increases in alcohol consumption in Africa and Asia.

Since 1999, when the agency first began to sound its warning against alcohol abuse, 34 countries have introduced some policies to cut the harmful use of alcohol.

These include restrictions on alcohol marketing and drink driving, but "there are no clear trends on most preventive measures," noted the agency.

The UN agency said it was particularly worried about Africa and Southeast Asia, where consumption had shown "marked increases."

Toll from dengue mounts in Latin America:

MONTEVIDEO (AFP) – An outbreak of dengue fever across much of Latin America has killed 31 people since the start of the year and is showing no sign of relenting.

There is no vaccine for dengue, a mosquito-borne viral disease endemic to tropical regions across the world, including Asia and Africa.

In 2010 the disease killed 1,187 people across Latin America, according to Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) figures. Some 1.8 million cases were detected, the PAHO said.

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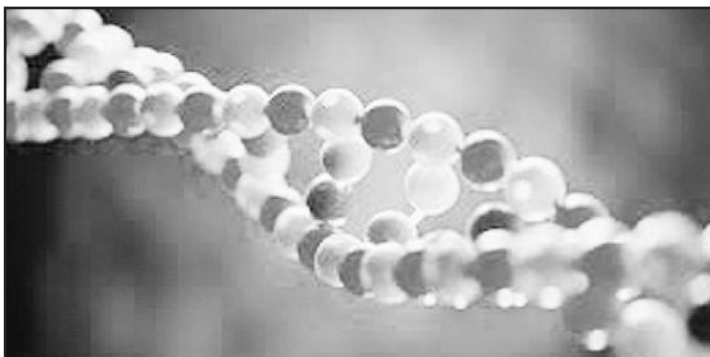
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DNA tests could also accidentally reveal incest



PARIS, France (AFP) – DNA tests designed to pinpoint development disorders in children can also inadvertently reveal whether a child was conceived through incest, a letter published by The Lancet warned.

Doctors led by Arthur Beaudet at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, said the discovery opens thorny ethical and legal problems for clinicians.

The test, known as DNA microarray analysis, looks for patterns of single changes in the

genetic code that can point to known disorders.

But the patterns can also reveal details about the donor's parentage without the parents having to undergo a test.

The letter gives the example of a three-year-old boy with multiple development problems where there was a telltale homogeneity, or a lack of variation, at key points in his chromosomes.

"These regions accounted for about a quarter of the genome -- a finding most consistent with the child having

been conceived by first-degree relatives," the letter said.

"Disabilities are known to be frequent in children born of incestuous parentage."

The discovery poses a dilemma for doctors that will amplify as microarray analysis becomes used more widely, the authors said.

In some jurisdictions, a doctor is required to report a likely incestuous relationship to the police or child protection services if the mother of the child is a minor.

In cases where the mother is an adult, the doctor's legal obligation is less clear, although there remains ethical concerns about whether she had been a victim of sexual abuse by her father or a brother.

The letter calls on medical institutions to compile a list of guidelines for doctors, drawing on the expertise of geneticists and ethics committees.

Strokes up among younger US population: study

WASHINGTON (AFP) – Stroke hospitalizations among Americans under 45, particularly teenage boys and men under 34, rose dramatically between 1994 and 2007 but fell among older people, said a study.

Researchers said they could not speculate on the cause, since the study only examined the number of hospitalizations across age and gender, but that the results merit further investigation of obesity and high

blood pressure.

CDC analysts found that stroke numbers had declined by 25 percent in men and by 29 percent in women over age 45.

But the good news ended there. The number of hospitalizations for ischemic stroke -- a stroke caused by a vessel blockage that interferes with blood flow to the brain -- rose 51 percent in boys and men age 15 to 34.

The rate among girls and women age 15 to 34 rose 17

percent in the same period.

When it came to men age 35-44, they saw a 47 percent increase in stroke hospitalizations and a 36 percent increase among women of the same age group.

Tong said medical professionals should take note of the shift when treating stroke patients, keeping in mind that younger people could benefit from a clot-busting tissue plasminogen activator (tPA) within hours after a stroke.

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Valentine's Day tip:

Say it with flowers

Are you planning on surprising anyone with flowers on Valentine's Day? Before you start picking out your bouquet, it's best to know what those flowers mean. While it's always the thought that counts behind any present, it might be interesting to know the traditional meaning behind each kind of bloom. Who knows, perhaps that special significance can add a little extra to the Valentine's message you want to get across.

Roses are the most popular flowers during the Valentine's season. Red roses are traditionally the symbols of utmost romance and love. If you desire a long-lasting passion and committed love, then presenting your beloved with red roses is just the thing.

If you plan on giving your friends Valentine's presents, consider yellow roses. Yellow is a color of warmth and joy, just like the comfort of good friends. Yellow

low roses stand for happiness and friendship.

Pink roses are often given as a sign of admiration. They're not as intense as their red counterparts, but evoke same elegance and grace. It could be perfect for budding romances or couples in the wooing stage.

For new beginnings, white roses are traditionally given as they represent purity and innocence. White roses are also said to represent honor and remembrance, which make them an ideal choice for commemorative celebrations.

Tulips have gained popularity over the years as well, and it is also a fond favorite for showing love.

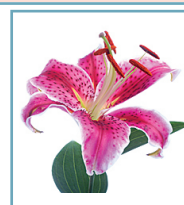
Its large, showy petals are traditionally said to symbolize fame, while its velvet-like dark center stands for a lover's heart colored deep

with passion. In the West, tulips are also one of the first flowers to blossom during the spring. This is why it is also associated with hope and a new life.

If you want to give the gift of cheer, **Gerbera daisies** stand for just that. Daisies generally represent beauty, but the vibrant colors of the Gerbera daisies added the meaning of cheerfulness and optimism. Cheering someone up during Valentine's Day may just be achievable with a bouquet of Gerberas.

Chrysanthemums are associated with life and admiration. Just don't give white chrysanthemums to a loved one as they represent grief and lamentation.

If you like beautiful and dramatic flowers, the **stargazer lily** is a good choice. The pink stargazer



prosperity.

Partners that may want to stress their commitment to each other could consider **sunflowers**. Sunflowers are radiant and warm, and they represent loyalty and longevity.



There are many different types of **orchids**, but generally they signify rare beauty. Maybe it's the exotic charm the flowers exude. With this meaning, perhaps orchids can best be given to that truly one-of-a-kind person in your life.

Flowers have long been a favorite Valentine's present, so why not take a little extra



step in learning the meaning behind each blossom? You could mix and match various flowers for layers of meanings. Better yet, whoever you're thinking of giving flowers to, find out what their favorite flowers are. Presenting them with their favorite blooms could be even more thoughtful and inspired.

So if you've still decided to purchase flowers for valentines day you will now need to have to decided which type of flower to offer. You may decide on from a stylish red rose to symbolize tradition, adore and beauty or it is possible to buy a 50 percent dozen, dozen or two dozen to completely blow the receiver away. If you don't need to go with the roses, you may be thinking about a combined bouquet of common flowers.





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<i>Garden salad with seafood Ceviche \$ 12,50</i>	
<i>Special :</i>	
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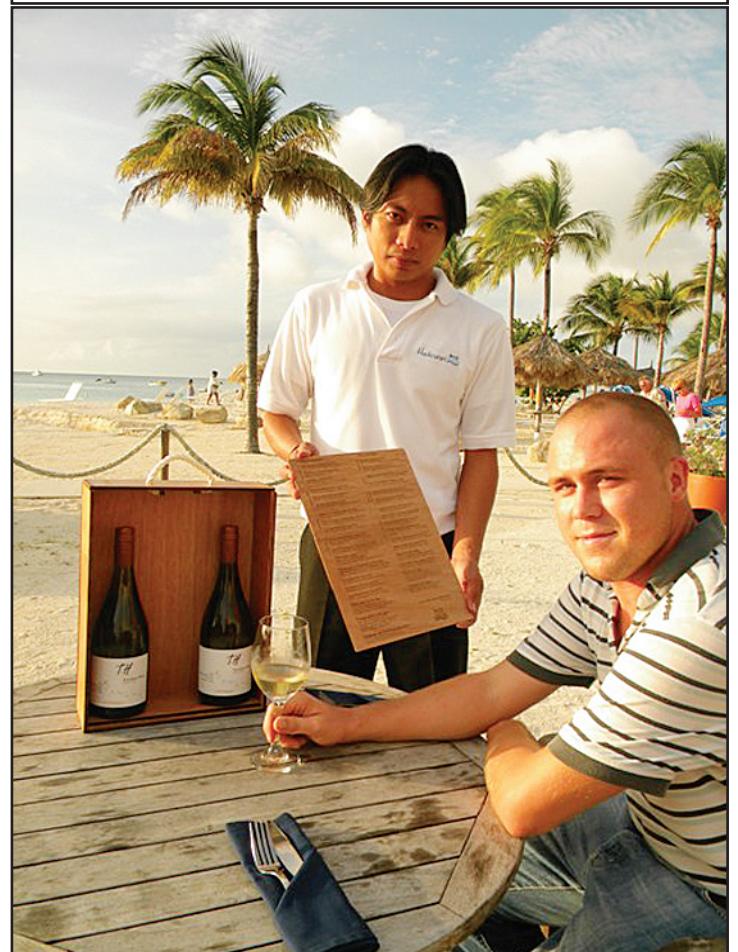
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You don't stand a chance! Valentine and Cupid are conspiring at Hadicurari



Lovers don't stand a chance this year at Valentine's: at Hadicurari Restaurant Cupid and Valentine are conspiring to make lunch and dinner super special. The arrow will pierce your heart at lunchtime as you taste the Red Snapper with shoestring French fries for \$ 9.50, the Garden Salad with Seafood Ceviche for \$ 12.50 or the Fettucine with Filet of Salmon for \$ 18.--.

But then the day is just halfway through and a festive dinner is coming up: this year there is a three-course Valen-

tine Special, with a Hadicurari Caprese Salad, a Red Snapper Filet with an Almond Sauce and Quesillo with fresh Strawberries for dessert for the special price of US 29.50. A sparkling surprise will be awaiting you at this Valentine's dinner. Expect Cupid and Valentine to hover right above your heads.

Reservations should be made via 586-2288. Hadicurari Restaurant, with its stunning ocean view, is located between MooMba Beach and the Marriott Ocean Club.

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CALVIN and HOBBS



CROSSWORD



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

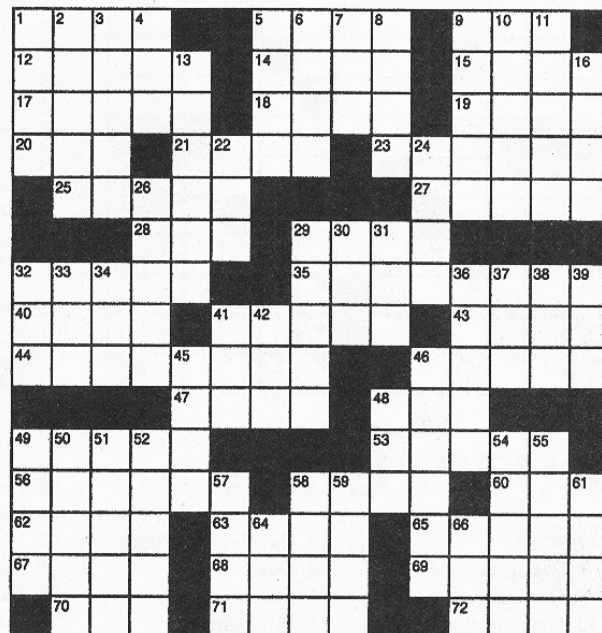
1. General Bradley
5. Saudi, e.g.
9. Cooking vessel
12. Surf sight
14. Soft drink
15. Enthusiastic
17. Wear away
18. ____ of March
19. Heredity factor
20. Knight
21. Metal deposit
23. Come out
25. Concluded
27. Starflower
28. Dollar bill
29. Among
32. Enamel
35. Manner
40. Inactive
41. Resell for a higher price
43. Change
44. Wire
46. Tent
47. Fellows
48. Crag
49. Analyze grammatically
53. Evaluator
56. Ran off to marry
58. Nursery items
60. Vehicle
62. Ebb or flood
63. Power source
65. Hint

DOWN

67. Observed
68. Uncommon
69. Opposing positions
70. Signal assent
71. Shangri-la
72. "Personal ____"
1. Is indebted to
2. Actress Wilson
3. Decorate
4. ____ herring (false clue)
5. Etching fluid
6. Took the bus
7. Pub offering
8. Foundation
9. Summons
10. Unconcealed
11. Glimmer
13. Ease up
16. Forest animal
22. Keats's specialty
24. Constructed
26. Gift receiver
29. Presidential name
30. Brooks or Gibson
31. Little devil
32. ____ bull terrier
33. Summer quenchers
34. Ailing
36. Thwart

37. Doze

38. Norwegian coin
39. Deli bread
41. Mrs., in Madrid
42. Heel
45. Happiness
46. Salutations
48. Taste
49. Domestic animals
50. Sigorney Weaver film

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Sudoku



SOLUTION

6	4	7	2	8	5	9	1	3
1	9	2	7	6	3	4	8	5
5	8	4	9	1	6	2	3	7
2	1	4	9	8	6	7	5	3
7	5	9	3	2	4	1	8	6
8	3	6	1	5	7	9	2	4
4	2	1	6	7	9	8	3	5
3	7	8	9	1	2	4	6	5
9	6	5	8	4	3	2	1	7

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9.



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Finance

De Beers returns to profit in boom year for diamonds



JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AFP) – Diamond mining group De Beers reported a return to profit, saying a boom year in diamonds in 2010 had made it "highly cash generative and profitable."

The world's largest diamond company reported sales of \$5.9 billion dollars (4.3 billion euros) in 2010, up from 3.8 billion dollars the year before, and a profit of 638 million dollars, up from a loss of 32 million dollars in 2009.

"2010 was an extraordinary

year that saw De Beers rapidly move from stabilisation to strong recovery," the company's directors said in a statement.

"The price of rough diamonds has recovered strongly as confidence returned to most parts of the diamond pipeline."

De Beers credited "extraordinary" growth in China and India and a better-than-expected retail performance in the United States during the holiday season with driving the rebound.

But the London-based company, which is owned 45 percent by Anglo American, 40 percent by the Oppenheimer family and 15 percent by the government of Botswana, warned the diamond trade had not completely bounced back from the global financial crisis.

"The industry is not back to pre-recessionary levels in terms of production or sales and a high degree of global uncertainty remains," it said.

Nokia joins forces with Microsoft in mobile phone 'war'



A man holds a new Windows Phone 7 mobile operating system

HELSINKI, Finland (AFP) – Nokia, the world's largest mobile phone maker, said it was slashing jobs and joining forces with US giant Microsoft in a major strategy shake-up that left investors disappointed.

In an effort to radically change course and fight off encroaching competition from RIM, Apple and Google, chief executive Stephen Elop said Windows Phone would now serve as Nokia's primary

smartphone platform.

Canadian Elop -- a former Microsoft executive who in September became the first non-Finn to lead Nokia -- also announced changes to Nokia's executive board and "substantial" job cuts.

"Nokia is at a critical juncture, where significant change is necessary and inevitable in our journey forward," Elop said.

"There will be substantial reductions in employment in various locations around the world," he told a press briefing in London, without giving further details.

The announcements were met with sharp disappointment on the stock market, with investors expecting more and with more details.

Nokia's stock closed down 14.22 percent to 7.00 euros (\$9.48) on a Helsinki stock exchange down 0.70 percent.

Speaking alongside Microsoft chief executive Steven Ballmer, Elop said the mobile phone market had changed from a battle of devices to "a war of ecosystems."

That war has proved difficult for Nokia, which has over the past two years seen increasing competition in the lucrative smartphone sector from Apple's iPhone, Research in Motion's (RIM) Blackberry and phones operated by Google's Android operating system.

As part of its new partnership with Microsoft, Nokia smartphones will be adopting Microsoft's phone platform.

"I think there was a recognition that for something to effectively compete and ultimately win against Android and iPhone, it would require some big muscle," Elop said.

Even though Elop's history with Microsoft had sparked speculation of some kind of cooperation, observers had also said Nokia could join forces with Google to get its hands on the successful Android operating system, particularly as Microsoft's platform has also struggled against Android or the iPhone.

Espirito Santo Investment Bank said the Android would have been a better choice.

"We explored the Google ecosystem ... however we felt that we would have difficulty

standing out of the crowd," Elop said, adding later that joining with Google would have felt like "giving up".

"I think Nokia feels that with Microsoft, they have better ability to put some input into the situation and development," Handelsbanken analyst Martin Nilsson told AFP.

Nokia itself said the gamble would take some time before it pays off, warning in a separate statement on Friday that 2011 and 2012 will be "transition years" as the company gets the strategy up and running.

In the meantime, it became clear that the company was in for a rocky short term.

"The full-year prospects for its Devices & Services business are subject to significant uncertainties," said the company, refusing to issue annual targets for 2011 and emphasizing the effect on the long-term goals.

In 2013, Nokia said the shake-up would start paying off, and expects their devices and services net sales to grow faster than the market.

Technology research firm Gartner said Wednesday Nokia's global market share had tumbled to 28.9 percent in 2010 from 36.4 percent in 2009, having once topped 40 percent.

In a memo to staff that emerged Wednesday, Elop warned that Nokia was standing on a burning platform, "surrounded by a 'blazing fire' of competition and that it needed to take radical action if it was to survive.

The company announced 1,800 job cuts last October out of its workforce of more than 132,000 around the world, of which half are in the phone operations.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

CAB	DROP	SAFE
ALA	RODE	ARIA
PET	APES	VENT
TAKE	TREADS	
THERE	PEAS	
HIRE	PORT	SHY
IDES	LIE	SHOE
NED	HAND	PAPA
MITT	LATER	
DIGEST	PART	
IDOL	ESAU	ERR
LENT	REND	RIO
LAGS	SETS	SPY

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Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef



Jim and Callie from Michigan

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.) Thus, eating out at the authentically Aruban restaurant, The Queen's, is very affordable, with a true taste of regional cuisine.

Owner Varella Innocencia confesses she opened her restaurant in Oranjestad because "I grew up with this, and loved serving people our island food. My father and mother operated the little restaurant across from the Americana, which some may remember, the original Arawak. I remember how much our customers loved trying the local food, and they especially loved the prices!"

Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, which is acknowledged on the menu with "Carni Stoba di Mamachi"—"Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak.

We also bumped into island visitors Jim and Callie from Michigan, who were eager to try island food, and were more than pleased with their venture

into local cuisine. "We will definitely return to The Queen's," they affirmed, "the food was delicious and the prices are more than right."

The menu sports a variety of steaks and tenderloin, fresh caught seafood, Caribbean lobster, and of course, one of our favorites, and what we consider a true test of local cuisine, "Keshi Yena"—"Filled Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lent that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

Located next to the Harbor at the end of the Weststraat, The Queen's is open from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining. They also have daily specials, aside from an extensive menu; made from whatever is in season.

We noticed a steady stream of islanders coming for lunch in the pleasant surroundings or picking up take-out containers; always a sure sign of a winner is where the locals like to eat!

Buster's Garage in South Beach Center: One place for the whole family

Buster's Garage, a New York City landmark, made its way to Aruba about a year ago, and found a new home at the South Beach Center across from the Radisson Resort. Dedicated to the sports fanatic, the spacious but homey interior is the perfect place to keep up with your favorite team and have a great meal.

Fun for all the family, Buster's has typical sport bar fare such as chicken wings, quesadillas, calamari rings for munching while watching the main event on 24 giant plasma screens. Every seat is good seat for catching all the action. Open from noon for lunch or dinner, it has plenty of distractions for the younger crowd, including foosball, and a video arcade, so Mom and Dad can relax and enjoy their meal.

The moderately priced menu includes all your favorite finger foods and a great selection of local and imported beers. Customer reviews gave Buster's Garage 4.5 stars out of 5 on yellow-pages-aruba.com; one declared "my wife and I happened to stumble upon it—but what a find!" Another stated "Owner Rusty is so down to earth. The food was very good and the prices were outstanding for the High-Rise area. Aruba needed a place like this."

Buster's regularly organizes special events with live music. At 10 p.m. it turns into a cozy adult hangout; 18 years and over only allowed, with a DJ on duty nightly and boasting the only beerpong table on Aruba. Aside from a great place to root for the home team or your favorites during playoffs and championships, they regularly carry



all UFC fights & WWE events.

Buster's is a great place where island visitors and res-

idents mix and mingle; Monday to Thursday they close at 2:00 a.m., weekends at 4:00 a.m.

Construction of the new Panama canal locks

COCOLI, Panama -- Overview of the site where the new Panama canal locks are under construction, on February 9, 2011 in Cocoli, Panama. The new locks will allow the passage through the canal of freighters with a cargo capacity of up to 12,000 containers and so far the works, led by Spanish company Sacyr, have been completed in a 10 percent. (AFP)



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ShabbyShic is known as a fashionhouse, besides their dress collection they are also known for everything that is fashion related, ranging from clothing, belts, bags, shoes and jewelry. Customers will instantaneously fall in love with what they have.

ShabbyShic is located at Avenida Milio Croes 12. Opening hours are from

10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. nonstop from Monday thru Saturday.

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He's back! Arnold Schwarzenegger returns to movies

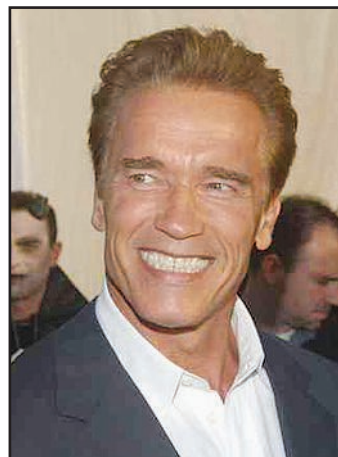
LOS ANGELES, California – Arnold Schwarzenegger is changing his famous catchphrase to "I'm back" from "I'll be back."

The former governor of California said that he was returning to his former role as a Hollywood action hero.

"Exciting news," he wrote on Twitter. "My friends at CAA (Creative Artists Agency, his talent firm) have been asking me for 7 years when they can take offers seriously. Gave them the green light today."

The 63-year-old actor's two terms as governor of America's most populous state ended last month, leading to much speculation as to whether he would upgrade to national political office or return to the silver screen.

In between failed efforts to plug a state deficit now pegged



at about \$25 billion, Schwarzenegger took time to make a few movie cameos, most recently as a mercenary leader in pal Sylvester Stallone's hit action thriller "The Expendables."

His movie career had been on the wane before he announced a surprise bid for the

governorship in 2003, running as a moderate Republican.

Movies such as "End of Days" (1999), "The 6th Day" (2000) and "Collateral Damage" (2002) each failed to hit \$100 million at the North American box office. Only when he reprised his title role in the third "Terminator" movie, in 2003, did he pull in blockbuster numbers.

Schwarzenegger originated the ominous line "I'll be back" in the first "Terminator" film in 1984, and it has become his trademark phrase for all occasions.

He returns to film as Hollywood suffers from a lack of brawny, laconic action men. The new breed of action hero is perhaps typified by Matt Damon, the mild-mannered headliner of the "Bourne" franchise.

French first lady Bruni records new album in Paris

PARIS, France (AFP) – French President Nicolas Sarkozy's wife Carla Bruni is currently recording her fourth album in Paris and not as reported in Los Angeles, her agent said.

The supermodel-turned-pop star is writing the lyrics and the music for the new album, the release date for which has not yet been made public. Some press reports said she was planning to record the work in the United States.

The French first lady's last album "Comme si de rien n'était" ("As if Nothing Had Happened"), a collection of

folk-pop songs mostly penned by Bruni, was released in 2008 and has sold about two million copies.

Bruni made headlines last week when the Cannes film festival announced that a Woody Allen movie in which she has a tiny part would open the glitzy 10-day event.

The romantic comedy "Midnight in Paris," with a starry cast that includes Oscar-winner Marion Cotillard and US actors Owen Wilson and Adrien Brody, will be shown out of competition at the world's most prestigious film bash.



NY police sirens to whoop, not wail: report



NEW YORK (AFP) – New York's characteristic wailing police sirens will soon change to a powerful whooping noise with sound waves that the public can actually feel, The Wall Street Journal reported.

The screaming whine of police sirens is as much a part of New York's atmosphere as the skyscrapers and bagel carts.

But that will change to a system called the Rumbler which mixes a low siren with a vibrating rumble that pedes-

trians and drivers can feel.

Robert Martinez, head of the New York Police Department's vehicle fleet, told the Journal that 500 cars will have the new siren by sum-

mer. All newly commissioned vehicles will be fitted with the Rumbler until the whole fleet is equipped.

"It actually reduces noise," he said.

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Kiwis confident ahead of World Cup



New Zealand Captain Daniel Vettori

NAGPUR (AFP) - New Zealand captain Daniel Vettori said Friday the recent one-day victories against Pakistan had restored some of their confidence ahead of the World Cup.

New Zealand lost the home one-day series but managed to win two games against Pakistan to end an 11-match losing streak which started with a triangular tournament in Sri Lanka last August.

They were later blanked in one-day series in Bangladesh and India.

"Defeats in the last three series have affected our morale, but the wins against Pakistan have restored our confidence," Vettori told reporters in Nagpur on the eve of their warm-up game against Ireland.

The New Zealand skipper said the experience of playing

in Bangladesh and India would stand his team in good stead.

"We have been playing in the sub-continent for some time and that has helped us gain more experience. We will focus on every match," he said.

Vettori was also banking on the expertise of newly-appointed coach John Wright, who helped India reach the 2003 World Cup final in South Africa during his five-year stint with the team.

"John is an important asset for us. He has vast experience, knowledge of local conditions, crowd and people and therefore he will be a good coach for New Zealand," said Vettori.

New Zealand are in Group A with defending champions Australia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, Canada

and Kenya, with the top four teams advancing to the quarter-finals.

They open their World Cup campaign on February 20 against Kenya at Chennai in India.

World Cup bonus row is over - French federation

PARIS, France (AFP) - The French Football Federation (FFF) announced on Friday that the debate over the France squad's forfeit of their World Cup bonuses was "definitively closed".

"The office of the federal council, which met this Thursday, February 10 under the chairmanship of (FFF president) Fernand Duchaussoy, believes that the case of the 2010 World Cup bonuses is definitively closed," read an FFF statement released on

Friday.

"To date, almost all the players present in South Africa last summer have officially confirmed in writing their renunciation of the money they were owed for their image rights."

The FFF added that even the players who had not yet officially informed the FFF of their decision to give up the payments would be considered to have abandoned their bonuses.

The money, believed to

total around three million euros, will be distributed in the amateur game.

Last Sunday, Duchaussoy told AFP that six members of the World Cup squad -- Patrice Evra, William Gallas, Nicolas Anelka, Andre-Pierre Gignac, Marc Planus and Franck Ribery -- were yet to formally forfeit their bonuses.

Duchaussoy added, however, that the FFF had "agreements from everyone" and said the delay was "purely administrative".

France's players agreed to give up their bonuses after a disastrous World Cup in South Africa last year that saw them eliminated at the group phase following a strike by the players.

The squad refused to train in protest at the FFF's decision to send home Chelsea striker Anelka after he was involved in a clash with coach Raymond Domenech at half-time of the 2-0 loss to Mexico.

Anelka was subsequently handed an 18-match international ban for his role in the affair, with Evra and Ribery banned for five and three games respectively. Jeremy Toulalan was also banned for one game.

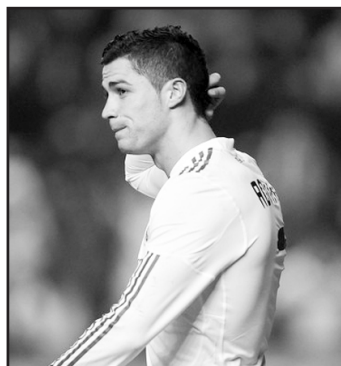
Ronaldo feeling 'phenomenal'

MADRID (AFP) - Real Madrid star striker Cristiano Ronaldo predicted Friday he will perform even better during the final stretch of the season than at the start, saying he feels "phenomenal".

The 26-year-old Portuguese international became the first Real player to score 50 goals in only 51 league games after he scored twice during his side's 4-1 home win over Real Sociedad on Sunday.

He now sits top of the La Liga scoring charts this season alongside Barcelona's Argentina international Lionel Messi with 24 goals.

"I think I'm going to be better during the final phase of the championship than in the beginning. I feel better now than



I did one or two months ago," Ronaldo said during an interview with radio Cadena Ser.

"The truth is that I feel phenomenal and I want that to be reflected on the pitch."

Real Madrid sit second place in Spain's top flight, seven points behind arch rivals Barcelona.

Ronaldo also said becoming a father last year had been the "fulfillment of a life-long dream".

"For me it was one of the best things that has happened in my life. At the start it was a bit strange, but you soon get used to it. I am very happy," he added in rare comments about his fatherhood.

Ronaldo announced in July 2009 he had fathered a baby boy with a woman who has chosen to remain anonymous and with whom he has agreed to keep exclusive guardianship of the child.

"He is going to have a lot of pressure, being the son of someone famous, it is going to be difficult but it is part of life," he said.

Defiant Lindsay Vonn skips slalom for downhill



GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN (AFP) - World and Olympic downhill champion Lindsey Vonn has said she aims to prove her critics wrong as she bids to defend her title this weekend.

Having struggled all week

with the after-effects of a head injury, US starlet Vonn was 12th fastest in the morning's downhill section of the super combined.

She then sat out the afternoon's slalom to rest before focusing all her efforts on Sunday's downhill.

The champion is feeling the pressure to defend her title and hit back at what she regards as unfair criticism as she struggles with headaches and concentration problems after taking a knock to the head in training last week.

"I know what I must do, so I can prepare for the downhill

and that's all I need to think about and if I race OK on Sunday then everyone will shut up," the 26-year-old told TV crews here.

"I do this for me, whatever others say. It was important for me to take this step and see if the focus was there, without any risks."

But Canadian skier Kelly Vanderbeek has said Vonn is setting a bad example by not yielding to the potential risk of a serious brain injury.

"This is where I draw the line as an athlete, and as someone who plans to use my brain long after my knees, shoulders

and back have given out.

"Sport isn't worth putting that at danger. I worry not only for the athletes' well being (it's their choice to take such risks), but the culture it

continues to feed.

"A culture where concussions are overlooked and athletes feel unwilling to admit and properly deal with brain injuries."



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Verdasco, Hewitt, Del Potro advance at San Jose



SAN JOSE, California (AFP) – Top seed and defending champion Fernando Verdasco advanced to the quarter-finals of the \$600,000 ATP SAP Open with a 7-5, 7-5 victory over Croatian Ivo Karlovic.

Karlovic blasted 14 aces but Verdasco won the only two break points of the match, the last in the 11th game, taking the 27-year-old Spaniard into a last-eight encounter Friday against Uzbek fifth seed Denis Istomin.

Istomin fired nine aces in defeating American Michael Russell 7-6 (9/7), 7-6 (7/4).

Argentina's Juan Martin Del Potro, the 2009 US Open champion, and Australian seventh seed Lleyton Hewitt, the 2001 US Open and 2002 Wimbledon champion, advanced to a quarter-final showdown with second-round wins.

Former world number one Hewitt ousted Argentina's Brian Dabul 3-6, 7-5, 6-3 while Del Potro, who has fallen from fourth to 484th in

the rankings with a right wrist injury, beat Slovakian Lukas Lacko 6-1, 7-6 (7/1).

It will be the first quarter-final for Del Potro since his injury. This is only his third event of the year and first US tournament since his US Open victory. He lost in the second round at the Australian Open and in Sydney.

"I'm serving very strong," Del Potro said. "I'm happy to be in a tournament again after a year out. I'm improving my game slowly. That's important for the future and for the season too."

"I don't know if I will be top 10 again in the future, but I know the way to find that position in the future. I'm working for that goal."

Hewitt and Del Potro will be the first Grand Slam winners to meet at San Jose since Andre Agassi beat Michael Chang in the first round in 2003.

"It will be a tough match," Hewitt said. "He's a quality player and he's on the comeback from injury, so he hasn't played the most amount of tennis. But he's a quality player, and if he gets up, it's going to be a tough match."

Japanese eighth seed Kei Nishikori became the fourth seed to be sent packing, falling to 172nd-ranked US wild card Tim Smyczek 6-4, 3-6, 6-1.

Smyczek will next face French second seed Gael Monfils, who is seeking his first title outside Europe. Monfils ousted American Robert Kendrick 6-2, 5-7, 6-4.

Crosby expects to play again this season

PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania (AFP) – National Hockey League star Sidney Crosby said Thursday he expects to return to the Pittsburgh Penguins this season after suffering a concussion last month.

Pistons to retire Rodman's number on April Fool's Day



DETROIT (AFP) – Dennis Rodman, a flamboyant forward who played on five NBA championship teams, will have his number 10 jersey retired by the Detroit Pistons in an April 1 ceremony, the team said Friday.

Rebounding legend Rodman, who turns 50 in May, will be honored at half-time when the Pistons, whom he helped to the 1989 and 1990 NBA crowns, play host to the Chicago Bulls, whom he helped to NBA titles in 1996, 1997 and 1998.

"I'm pleased we are honoring Dennis for his accomplishments as a player and his contributions to the success of the organization," said Pistons basketball operations president Joe Dumars. "His jersey retirement is well deserved."

The April Fool's Day ceremony is no joke but somewhat appropriate for Rodman, whose over-the-top style drew attention far greater than his formidable basketball skills.

Rodman's controversial antics went well beyond his body piercings, tattoos and numerous wild hair-dye colorings, including run-ins with referees, opponents and even teammates as he became the prototype for a Pistons lineup that became known as the "Bad Boys".

Crosby, who scored the gold-medal goal for Canada in over-time in last year's Vancouver Winter Olympics against the United States, called his slow recovery "frustrating" but added "I'm expecting to play again this year."

The Penguins captain re-joined his team for a morning workout after spending last week with his parents in eastern Canada.

"I hope I'm back and I hope I play this year," Crosby said. "That's the thing with (concussions), you don't know."

Crosby, who leads the

Penguins with 32 goals and ranks fourth in the NHL in scoring, has already missed 14 games because of complications following the concussion and he cannot return until he is free of symptoms.

The 23-year-old playmaker was sidelined after hits to the head against Washington on January 1 and four days later against Tampa Bay.

The Penguins are also without Russian center Evgeni Malkin, who will not return from knee surgery until September, and center Mark Letestu, who will miss four to six weeks with knee surgery.



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Woods impresses in Dubai, McIlroy leads



DUBAI (AFP) — Tiger Woods had the round of the day at the Dubai Desert Classic on Friday, but it was Ulster's Golden Boy Rory McIlroy who held on to the lead at the halfway stage of the Gulf's showcase tournament.

Woods produced his best golf of the year for a six under 66 to bound into contention for a first title in 15 months.

He will go into the weekend on seven under par, four strokes shy of McIlroy who added a 68 to his opening blast of 65 to stand at 11 under.

In second place a stroke

off the lead is back-to-form Sergio Garcia who came in with a second straight 67. He is level with South Africa's Thomas Aiken, who has had identical scores to the Spaniard.

Playing alongside the two men ahead of him in the rankings, Lee Westwood and Martin Kaymer, the world number three Woods looked comfortable and relaxed as he took advantage of perfect morning playing conditions to roll in six birdies, all from within fairly comfortable putting range.

"I've played myself right back in the tournament," he said

"I cleaned up the round. I didn't make as many mistakes as I did yesterday and I think I hit the ball a little better today."

Woods' score bettered the two three-under 69s he returned two weeks ago in the first two rounds at Torrey Pines in California when he opened his year with a disappointing tie for 44th place in the USPGA Tour event.

Woods opted to continue his buildup to April's Masters, when he will aim to bag a 15th major title, in Dubai where he has won twice before in 2006 and 2008.

Westwood had a 70 and was two back from Woods on five under. Kaymer had a 71 and is at four under.

McIlroy, whose 65 was the talking point of Thursday's opening round, bogeyed the second hole to let slip the lead.

But birdies at the seventh and the ninth took the 21-year-old from Hollywood near Belfast to the turn in 34 and he rejoined Aiken atop the leaderboard with another pair of birdies at the 12th and 15th.

Clijsters regains world number one spot

PARIS (AFP) - Kim Clijsters became the world number one for the third time in her career on Friday when she battled back from 3-0 down to defeat Australia's Jelena Dokic 6-3, 6-0 in the Paris Open quarter-finals.

The 27-year-old reigning US and Australian Open champion had been number one for the first time in her career in 2003, when she was top for 12 weeks, and then

again in 2006, spending seven weeks at the head of the rankings.

The Belgian will officially knock Denmark's Caroline Wozniacki, who has yet to win a Grand Slam title, from the number one slot when the new WTA rankings are released on Monday.

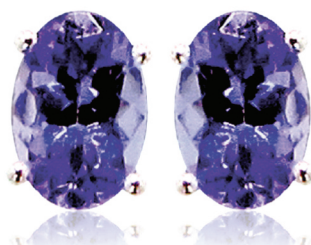
Clijsters, who had retired in 2006 to start a family, has also won the 2005 and 2009 US Open titles.



Patrik Flodin and co-driver Goeran Bergsten of Sweden compete in their Subaru Impreza STI during the fourth stage of the WRC Rally of Sweden in Lovhaugen, Norway on February 11, 2011.

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